

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-10

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R 311246Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9814

INFO USUN NEW YORK 0258

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1991

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,BB,GJ

SUBJ: ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

REF: STATE 255900

1. REFTEL POSES THE QUESTION: ARE WE EFFECTIVELY
TRANSLATING OUR LEVERAGE WITH OUR HOST COUNTRY INTO
SUPPORT IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS?

2. WE DO CARRY OUT OUR INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESS THE
GOVTS OF BARBADOS AND GRENADA FOR SUPPORT TO THE
BEST OF OUR ABILITY. SINCE OUR STAFF IS SMALL, IT IS
MORE OFTEN THE DCM RATHER THAN THE POLITICAL OFFICER
WHO MAKES THE DEMARCHE. WHEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE,
I PERSONALLY APPROACH THE BARBADIAN MINISTER OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS OR THE GRENADIAN PRIMIN (WHO IS ALSO
HIS COUNTRY'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER).

3. ON THE WHOLE, OUR RECORD IS ONE OF CONSIDERABLE
SUCCESS. BOTH BARBADOS AND GRENADA HAVE VOTED WITH US
IN THE UN MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, EVEN ON ISSUES ON WHICH
THEIR CARIBBEAN NEIGHBORS HAVE VOTED AGAINST US. THE
EMBASSY CANNOT TAKE THE WHOLE CREDIT FOR SUCH SUPPORT,
HOWEVER, SINCE THE UN REPS OF BOTH COUNTRIES
ENJOY AND EXERCISE, A SIGNIFICANT DEGREE OF INDEPENDENCE.

4. WHILE THIS SITUATION HAS SERVED US WELL IN THE PAST,
IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT WITH THE ADVENT OF AMBASSADOR JOSE
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MARIA CHAVES,IT WILL SERVE US LESS WELL IN FUTURE.I

PROPOSE TO DISCUSS AMBASSADOR CHAVES' SHORTCOMINGS WITH
PRIMIN GAIRY THE NEXT TIME I AM IN GRENADA. WHETHER GAIRY
WILL HEED MY COUNSEL REMAINS TO BE SEEN,
SINCE CHAVES OBVIOUSLY HAS INGRATIATED HIMSELF WITH HIS
BOSS. NEVERTHELESS, THE HISTORY OF GAIRY'S RULE SUGGESTING
THAT CHAVES MAY BE EXPECTED TO FALL FROM GRACE, SOONER
RATHER THAN LATER: IT IS OBVIOUSLY DIFFICULT TO SERVE
THE GRENADIAN PM TO HIS SATISFACTION FOR VERY LONG.
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